[English]

Stadia under SAI

2396. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Sports Authority of India has thrown open its stadia for seminars, conferences, fashion shows and marriage functions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons and justification for leasing out them for private functions;

(d) the income so far earned by the Sports Authority of India as a result thereof; and

(e) whether Government propose to review the said decision of the Sports Authority of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN) : (a) to (c) All the stadia are primarily used for sports activities. However, in view of the resource crunch being faced by the Sports Authority of India, non-sports activities viz. art, culture and other social activities have been allowed in a very limited way in Indira Gandhi Stadium, Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium and Talkatora Swimming Pool Complex on a case to case basis. These activities are, however, not allowed to come at all in the way of the normal sports-related activities.

Sports Authority of India (SAI) has to generate funds to meet the expenditure on maintenance of the stadia. One of the major sources of generating funds is allowing use of the stadia for non-sports activities.

(d) During the years 1995-96 and 1996-97, a sum of Rs. 68.20 lakhs and Rs. 91.07 lakhs respectively were generated from such activites.

(e) No, Sir.

Funds for Local Purchase in CGHS Unani Store

2397. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the total funds allotted for local purchase, which is available with the CGHS Unani store Incharge, New Delhi;

(b) whether this amount is not sufficient for CGHS beneficiaries who are to wait for months together for their medicines;

(c) if so, the reasons for not increasing the amount for local purchase; and

(d) the number of cases where local purchase indents could not be supplied to the dispensary/unit concerned even within the period of a fortnight month during the last three years, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c) No separate funds are earmarked for local purchase of Unani medicines, an indent is placed on the CGHS Stores who, in turn, procure the same from the open market.

(d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Deaths Due to Malnutrition

2398. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Commission for Woman has expressed concern over the increase in the number of infant deaths due to malnutrition in the country, particularly tribal/rural areas;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the remedial steps being taken or proposal to be taken by the Government to check the number of infant deaths due to malnutrition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The National Nutrition Policy adopted in 1993 seeks to provide intersectional and sustainable action in agriculture, health and education for reducing malnutrition. The number of infant deaths due to malnutrition will be checked through interventions under the Integrated Child Development Services, Balwadi Nutrition Programme and Mid-day Meal and the Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programmes under implementation. Micro nutrient dificiencies of iron, iodine and Vitamin-A which are being prevented and treated through iodisation of salt, supply of iron and folic acid tablets and Vitamin A solution will also contribute to the reduction in malnutrition related deaths.

Conference on Cancer Treatment

2399. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
DR. RAMAKRISHNA KUSMARIA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the doctors participating in the conference on Cancer

treatment and Research institute held recently in Gwalior had expressed their view that when cancer becomes incurable, opium can prove effective;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government would like to review the restrictions imposed on opium so that it could be made available to the deserving patients;

(d) if so, when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the HOUSE.

[English]

State Roads into N.Hs. in Maharashtra

2400. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria followed by the Union Government to declare State Roads as National Highways;

(b) the names of the State Roads in Maharashtra declared as National Highways during the past three years;

(c) the details of representations of the State Government of Maharashtra pending with the Union Government of declaring State Roads as National Highways; and

(d) since when the proposals of State Government are pending and the time by which these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Roads which run through length and breadth of country; roads connection adjacent countries; road connecting State Capitals; roads connecting major ports and important industrial or tourist centres; roads meeting very important strategic requirement; roads carrying high density of traffic over an adequate length and roads which will enable sizeable reduction in travel distance and achievements of substantial economies thereby, any considered for declaration as National Highways subject to availability of funds.

(b) No new National Highway has been declared in Maharashtra during the last three years.

(c) and (d) During the 8th Five Year Plan, as many as 12 proposals aggregating to a length of 4841 Kms were received. However none of the proposals could be approved due to continued resource crunch.

Multi-Purpose Water Resources Projects

2401. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to invite private sector participation in multi-purpose water resources projects;

(b) if so, which are the projects identified in Andhra Pradesh during the past one year for the said purpose;

(c) whether any private sector companies have shown any keenness to participate therein; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) For examining the feasibility and scope of private sector participation in Irrigation and Multi-Purpose Projects, the Government constituted a high level Committee which submitted its report on 22nd December, 1995. The Committee concluded that while private sector participation is feasible in respect of all irrigation (surface and ground water) and multi-purpose projects, it would be desirable to introduce this on pilot basis for selected projects. A copy of the report has already been sent to all States/Union Territories for necessary action.

(b) There is no such proposal of the Government of Andhra Pradesh at present.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Foetus Tests

2402. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foetus tests conductad in the country during the last three years;

(b) the number of cases of foeticide (female) out of the foetus tests conducted;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any comprehensive policy for checking foetus tests as well as foeticides; and

(d) if so, the details thereof the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) This information is not monitored by Government of India.

(c) and (d) The Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994 which has come into force on 1.1.96 provides for the regulation of the use of pre-natal diagnostic techniques and